FBIS DAILY REPORT

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FOREIGN MINISTRY ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON FALKLANDS

PY040100 Buenos Aires Domestic Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Communique released by the Foreign Ministry on the 152d anniversary of the British "takeover" of the Falklands]

[Text] Today is the 152d anniversary of the United Kingdom's illegal takeover by force of the Malvinas Islands.

Today the Argentine Government and people assert the sovereign rights of our country over the Malvinas, Georgias, and South Sandwich Islands, thus reasserting our unyielding decision to obtain through peaceful negotiations the reinstatement of that part of our territory to the nation. We are absolutely certain of the rights we have in making this claim.

In this regard the Argentine Government has positively answered the reiterated calls for negotiations made by the UN secretary general to the two parties in dispute within the framework of its good offices in accordance with Resolutions 37-9, 38-11 and 39-6 of the UN General Assembly.

Unfortunately, the British Government has not acted accordingly. Furthermore, the latest events, which are publicly known, show the British Government taking actions that are not leading to the establishment of a basis of understanding to make the necessary negotiations possible.

The Argentine Government, reflecting the feeling of its people, will continue its efforts to reach a peaceful solution over this dispute, which affects and concerns not only our country but also the sister nations of Latin America and the overall international community.

On the other hand, the Argentine Government and the countries of the region see with concern the worsening of the tension in the South Atlantic as a result of the British Government's actions, such as the zone of exclusion for Argentine ships and airplanes, and an active militarization of the islands, which are not contributing to but rather obstructing the path to a solution.

However, the Argentine Government hopes that the United Kingdom will eventually act in accordance with the obligations imposed by the UN Charter and with due respect for the UN resolutions so that the negotiations aimed at solving the conflict can begin as soon as possible.

'HARDENING' NOTED IN THATCHER'S FALKLANDS STAND

PY031450 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 1224 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Buenos Aires, 3 Jan (NA) -- According to a press report published by a Buenos Aires morning daily, a hardening of the policy of the government led by Margaret Thatcher has frustrated "a new Argentine-British direct contact" over the Malvinas Islands issue that was to be held "prior to the next UN General Assembly scheduled for September."

The press report states that a new meeting between Buenos Aires and London "was being engineered" on a confidential level through Switzerland and Brazil, seeking to overcome the freeze in the talks that became evident at the meeting held in Bern on 18 and 19 July 1984 because of the "stubborn refusal" of the British to deal with the subject of sovereignty.

According to the morning daily, the new attempt to hold Argentine-British talks after the Malvinas war in 1982 was thwarted by the message that Thatcher recently addressed to the kelpers [Malvinas residents] reasserting the alleged principle of self-determination of the Malvinas residents.

The report adds that the concession granted to the Firstland Oil and Gas Company to extract oil from a 22-square-mile area to the east of the archipelago is another sign of the "hardening" of the Conservative British Government in the Malvinas conflict.

LA PRENSA Editorial

PY031735 Buenos Aires LA PRENSA in Spanish 2 Jan 85 p 8

[Editorial: "Words That Do Not Help"]

[Text] British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher does not relent in her determination not to recognize the Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas, and so she keeps repeating that "they are British and will continue to be British as long as their inhabitants want it."

This well-known phrase has again been heard in recent days as part of the Christmas message London sent to the current occupants of the archipelago. The message stressed that "the Malvinas Islands are British territory," and the wishes of their inhabitants "are to be considered above everything else."

At a time when the United Nations insists on recommending that the British-Argentine conflict be resolved at the negotiating table, as it should, the head of the British Government does not consider the norms of international law and sets herself up as judge and jury of the 150-year-old controversy.

As far as Argentina and the other UN members are concerned, the wishes of the Malvinas inhabitants, worthy of respect though they might be, have no weight. The problem has to do with national sovereignty and an Argentine complaint over an act of usurpation committed in detriment of her rights. Any proposition involving the kelpers would in the last instance depend on the well-founded and conclusive clarification of the sovereignty question.

There is no ground, therefore, to affirm that "the Argentine Government, now that it is a democratic one and can thus make its own decisions, should know that the inhabitants of the Malvinas are entitled to the same right."

The firm attitude of rejection which the message of the prime minister caused in Argentina does not have to be justified, because the terms of the message reveal blindness on the British side and do not help to find a solution of the protracted conflict. The Argentine reaction is shared by large sectors of the British people, such as Labour opposition MP Tam Dalyell, who has branded Thatcher's message as "provocative because of the time at which it was made, its tone, and its content." He added that the words of the prime minister only incite those Argentine military men who "want to take revenge on us, as well as destabilize the Argentine civilian government."

More than 150 years after the perfidious invasion of our islands, when the United Kingdom is adopting a different attitude toward Hong Kong and Gibraltar, a more rational attitude is to be expected from the British Government regarding the Malvinas.

RULES ON MARITIME TRAFFIC WITH BRAZIL CHANGED

PY041014 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Buenos Aires, 3 Jan (NA) -- The Under Secretariat of River and Maritime Transport has decided that as of 1 January 1985 "all the ocean freight from Brazil must be transported by Argentine or other authorized ships, at least on a temporary basis."

The resolution was signed by Under Secretary Pedro Casado after the Brazilian Government unilaterally excluded from the bilateral agreements the transportation of Argentine solid and liquid products in bulk.

The situation created in the operation of Argentine-Brazilian maritime traffic, which implies a virtual rupture of the current agreements, was this morning discussed on the telephone by Casado Bianco and his Brazilian counterpart Jonas Correa da Costa Sobrinho.

The two officials agreed to begin direct negotiations next Wednesday, 9 January, in coincidence with the meeting to be held by Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Joao Figueiredo in Foz de Iguazu. If the presidents' meeting is not held due to the illness of the Brazilian president, Casado Bianco and Costa Sobrinho will meet before the end of January in Rio de Janeiro.

CGT DECIDES TO SUSPEND PARTICIPATION IN DIALOGUE

PY040030 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 0003 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Buenos Aires, 3 Jan (NA) -- The Argentine General Labor Confederation [CGT] today decided "to suspend" its participation in the socioeconomic talks.

The decision was made at a meeting of the CGT executive council held this afternoon. In a communique read by Saul Ubaldini at the end of the meeting, the CGT demands "an immediate change of course and procedures" in the socioeconomic policy.

1984 CALLED YEAR OF 'CRISIS' FOR PERONISM

PY011910 Buenos Aires BUENOS AIRES HERALD in English 31 Dec 84 p 5

[Text] (NA) -- "1984 has been a year of agony and crisis for Peronism," party leader Angel Federico Robledo pointed out yesterday, adding that "the crisis must get worse before the movement can be pieced together again." Robledo said that "even within the scarce power to unite" that Peronism appears to have, "Isabel is the one with the best chance," since, he added "she is the only one who has kept at the margin of any kind of questioning."

With reference to the latest Justicialist congress, the politician said that "crisis grows" and pointed out that the congress called by the group of dissidents "will mark a new path which surely won't be short." He added that the current crisis of the Justicialist Party must be taken to its utmost consequences. The movement must first seek to get to the bottom of its crisis, and "only then will the answers come up for the renewal of Peronism," he explained.

FIGUEIREDO TO REMAIN UNDER OBSERVATION AT CLINIC

PY032330 Porto Alegre Radio Guaiba in Portuguese 2150 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] President Figueiredo is in excellent physical condition and will remain under observation for a few days in the clinic from which he will continue to attend to presidential matters normally, says a note to the press that was signed by the doctors on Dr Paulo Niemeyer's medical team.

However, Dr Niemeyer does not totally rule out the possibility of surgery, although the probability has diminished. The doctor says that in 4 or 5 days he will be able to tell whether the president will need surgery or not.

Alfonsin Meeting Postponed

PY032055 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1940 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Brasilia, 3 Jan (EFE) -- The meeting that Presidents Raul Alfonsin and Joao Figueiredo were going to hold on 9 January has been postponed indefinitely due to the health condition of the Brazilian president, a high Foreign Ministry source confirmed to EFE.

The meeting, which was to be held in the border city of Foz de Iguazu, was going to be the first meeting between the two presidents since Alfonsin becamse president last year.

Figueiredo was hospitalized in the Sao Jose Hospital of Rio de Janeiro due to a spine problem which Dr. Haruo Nishimura has been treating with massage and physical therapy since last month.

According to neurosurgeon Paulo Niemayer, it will not be necessary to operate on President Figueiredo for the time being. He advised that the patient remain hospitalized for 4 days of observation before he can give a new opinion on the case.

The postponement of the meeting between the two presidents may represent the definite cancellation of the meeting because on 15 January Brazil will have a new president elected by the Electoral College.

The press office of Tancredo Neves, the opposition presidential candidate, has not denied a report that Neves will visit several Latin American countries, including Argentina.

Trips Canceled

PY032350 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpts] Presidential spokesman Carlos Attila today said in Rio de Janeiro that in face of the spinal column problem affecting President Figueiredo his trips scheduled for January have been canceled. According to Attila, the meeting between Figueiredo and Argentine President Raul Alfonsin, which was scheduled for 9 January, has been delayed for a later date.

Attila added that, effective tomorrow, the president will be able to receive his senior presidential aides, and that Minister Leitao de Abreu has already informed Vice President Aureliano Chaves about the results of the president's medical examinations.

PINOCHET ON REGIONAL GEOPOLITICAL 'SCHOOLS'

PY021930 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0016 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Santiago, 2 Jan (TELAM-ANSA) -- Chilean President General Augusto Pinochet believes that two new geopolitical schools of thought have emerged in South America: one for Argentina and one for Brazil.

This theory is included in the president's book on geopolitics, whose fourth expanded and corrected edition has been put into circulation with a limited number of 2,000 copies.

Regarding the alleged Argentine geoplitical school of thought, states that its exponents believe that although the geographical situation of their country is not favorable, because it is located in an eccentric position regarding the rest of the continent and the other continents, it has the advantage of being outside the orbit of the great powers and in a position to exercise hegemony in this part of the world.

The Chilean president then goes on to state that Argentina considers that there are certain South American countries that are somewhat subordinated to it, such as those which, in order to directly reach the Atlantic, must do so through Argentine territory, such as Bolivia, Paraguay, and to a certain degree, Chile.

He then states that Argentina seeks by all means an access to the Pacific, because it believes that a great power must have coasts on both oceans. The great River Plate basin grants it a great area of influence in the interior of the continent.

Pinochet then notes that Argentina expects to maintain control over the countries rich in minerals in order to obtain the source of raw minerals, of which it now lacks a sufficient supply.

Regarding the Brazilian geopolitical school, Pinochet believes that its exponents cite the vast space this country occupies, and its control over the Amazon basin. They also believe that Brazil is in an excellent position to exert control over South America and seek an outlet to the Pacific Ocean, whatever the effort necessary, and without necessarily recovering in a short term the the capital invested. Everything is planned for the long term.

In referring to Chile, Pinochet regrets that a national school for geopolitical studies has not been created and that this subject was only included in the curriculum of some universities a few years ago. He believes that Chilean geopolitical school could aim at developing a great maritime power, at making the people aware of the importance of the mountains, and at promoting the greatest economic-industrial power in South America.

CZECHOSLOVAK PAPER SAYS U.S. SEEKS AREA PACT

PY040130 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Report by Jose Francisco Contreras]

[Excerpt] The Foreign Ministry has not reacted to a UPI report quoting news published by the Czechoslovak newspaper RUDE PRAVDO.

According to the report, the United States intends to enter into a South Atlantic pact along with Great Britain, Chile, and South Africa, as reported by the Czechoslovak newspaper. This media accused Great Britain of having invested large sums of money to convert the Malvinas Islands into a military fortress.

The UPI report added that the United States supports the British decisions as they fall within the White House's plan to organize a South Atlantic pact with Great Britain, Chile, and South Africa and excluding Argentina and Brazil.

Asked about this report, Foreign Ministry spokesman Marcelo Padilla said that the news was published in Prague by the official mouthpiece of the Czechoslovak Communist Party and that it did not refer to Chile but attributed the initiation of the pact to the United States, for which reason he asked that all questions be cleared with U.S. Government representatives.

Meanwhile, the Foreign Ministry has submitted to the Supreme Court the U.S. document requesting the excradition of Honduran General Jose Bueso. Gen Bueso, who served as Honduran military attache in Santiago until a short time ago, is being detained in Chile because of a U.S. accusation that he participated in a plot against Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova.

CUADRA REPORTS ON SUBVERSIVE INCIDENTS

PY040230 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Minister Secretary General of Government Francisco Javier Cuadra this afternoon reported on two subversive incidents which took place during the past 24 hours which he said are important for the public because of their nature. He said that a person died this morning during a blaze that broke out in a hideout as a result of a confrontation with police. However, the first subversive action occurred last night.

[Begin Cuadra recording] Last night, at the intersection of Rengo and El Bosque Streets in La Cisterna, four men and a woman, their heads covered with ski masks and carrying small firearms, took a 100-passenger bus on the La Granja-El Montijo line. The bus, which was being driven by Luis Benegas Gonzalez and mechanic Willy Lopez, was ordered to stop at the intersection of Alejandro Guzman and Aguas Verdes Streets. The subversives later sprinkled gasoline and paraffin around the bus and set fire to it, completely destroying it. The driver and the mechanic emerged unhurt.

The subversive fled after erecting at the square located in front of 430 Guzman Street a placard recalling the Communist Party's 63d anniversary and identifying themselves as members of the Manuel Rodriguez Patriotic Front [FPMR]. Furthermore, the subversives threw a hand grenade, slightly injuring Marcelo Alejandro Munoz Uharz, aged 10, who was admitted to the San Bernardo Hospital's emergency unit, along with the minor Christian Alt, who was treated for shock. None of the individuals who participated in this terrorist attack have yet been detained. [end recording]

The minister secretary general later reported on the second incident which occurred this morning.

[Begin Cuadra recording] As a result of the documents seized at 1392 Carmen Street when the Santiago station of Radio Liberacion was disbanded a few weeks ago, at 1115 today police searched the house at 2304 Victoria Street in the Maipu neighborhood. When security personnel entered the house, somebody inside opened fire, initiating a shootout that lasted for approximately 30 minutes. As a result, the house caught fire and was virtually destroyed because a large number of explosives hidden in the house exploded. [end recording]

Minister Cuadra said that two Czechoslovak 9-mm machine guns, a pistol, and a sophisticated rocket launcher were discovered in the house and that two firemen and a National Intelligence Center agent were injured. Minister Cuadra also reported the arrest of five persons who were holding a clandestine meeting of the outlawed Socialist Party. The detainees were identified as Emilia Rosas Lopez y Fuentes, secretary; Eduardo Guillermo Ortiz Romero, lawyer, Ricardo Alejandro Solari Saavedra, economist; Marcelo Gaston Schilling Rodriguez, graduate of the political science and public administration college, and Maria Veronica Vallejos Barriga, secretary. Minister Cuadra said that this extremist cell was operating under the front organization called Institute for Social and Economic Studies at 24 Dr Mapuel Barros Borgona Street. A large number of political documents and some subversive documents were seized during the operation.

CHURCH REQUESTS INVESTIGATION OF MISSING PEOPLE

PY031315 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2205 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Santiago, 2 Jan (EFE) -- The Solidarity Vicariate of the Santiago Archbishopric today requested the Supreme Court of Justice to appoint a judge to investigate the arrest and disappearance of persons between August 1975 and November 1976.

The request, signed by Vicar Santiago Tapia, is based on serious information which compares with that obtained through judicial investigations. The information was voluntarily handed over to the vicariate by former security agent Andres A. Valenzuela Morales.

In his request to the Supreme Court, Msgr Tapia states that the church has evidence an honest search for truth and justice by supporting the relatives of the victims, which has as its objective the well-being of Chile, its institutions, and its healthy coexistence.

The request describes the problem of the arrested people who are missing and summarizes the testimony of the former security agent. It ends by stating that its only purpose is that of reasserting the dignity and rights of man.

POLICE UNCOVER NICARAGUAN SUBVERSIVE 'PLOT'

PA032250 Bogota EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Dec 84 p 1

[By Eduardo Carrillo]

[Text] The National Armed Forces and the Customs Police of Medellin have confiscated war material which apparently came from Nicaragua and a photocopy of a letter, allegedly signed by Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega Saavedra, which details plans to support an invasion by armed subversives in Colombia of the San Andres and Providencia Archipelago.

General Rafael Padilla Vergara, commander of the National Armed Forces' 4th Brigade, has revealed that Dario Alfonso Tobon Echeverry, Juan Guillermo Pena Trujillo, and Pascual Hernando "Perez Rivera were captured aboard a Panamanian company's airplane at the Olaya Herrera International Airport carrying war materiel.

The men were also carrying a letter whose contents surprised investigators because it stated that Nicaragua would support, backed by Cuba and the Soviet Union, increased guerrilla activities in Colombia during 1986, in a new attempt to destabilize the government.

According to the photocopy of the letter which was reportedly signed by Nicaraguan President-elect Daniel Ortega Saavedra, heavy artillery would be supplied to raid the port of Buenaventura.

In addition, General Rafael Padilla Vergara, commander of the Armed Forces' 4th Brigade, confirmed the confiscation of the following material, in addition to the important political document, during the successful operation, carried out during the last few hours at the Olaya Herrera International Airport in Medellin: 2,238 C-156 cartridges for M-14 and AR-15 rifles; 40 ammunition carriers [proveedores] for the same weapons, 15 ammunition clips, 1 PR butt stock [culatin] for a rifle, and 16 ammunition belts to carry the rounds.

Seven people, including two Cuban doctors, were initially arrested during the spectacular operation; however, the doctors and two other people were released hours later. Only Dario Alfonso Tobon Echeverry, Juan Guillermo Pena Trujillo, and Pascual Hernando Perez Rivera remain under military custody.

Approximately 1,400 guerrilla members of the communist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia (FARC) and the 19 April Movement (M-19) are receiving military training in Nicaragua by the Sandinist forces, according to the letter which was allegedly signed by Daniel Ortega Saavedra and confiscated from inside a bundle [tula] containing supplies and rounds for automatic weapons.

According to the photocopy of the letter, which is in the hands of secret military organizations and which was addressed to a guerrilla member currently living in Medellin, the armed struggle in Colombia would be renewed in 1986, and Cuba and the Soviet Union would support it with heavy artillery.

NICARAGUA REAFFIRMS PLAN TO GIVE UP SAN ANDRES

PA032120 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 29 Dec 84 pp 1 A, 8 A

[Text] The Nicaraguan Government withdrew from circulation a publication which included the Islands of San Andres and Providencia within its borders.

One year ago, the Colombian government, through Foreign Minister Rodrigo Lloreda Caicedo, protested the inclusion of the archipelago in that country's map in the book "Nicaragua in Figures 1983."

The Sandinist regime had avoided replying to the Colombian note until 15 December, when its ambassador in Bogota Francisco Quinonez Reyes revealed a communique announcing that Nicaragua had withdrawn that book from circulation. The letter from the ambassador to President Betancur announcing the withdrawal stated:

Bogota, 15 December 1984

Most Excellent Mr President:

I have great honor of addressing Your Excellency. In keeping with orders from Dr Sergio Ramirez Mercado, member of the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction and vice president-elect of Nicaragua, I report the following:

"The National Institute of Statistics and Census of the Republic of Nicaragua (INEC) announces that it is withdrawing from circulation 'Nicaragua in Figures 1983,' which was published in 1984, because INEC has confirmed that it contains significant information requiring further review.

"Therefore, as that pubication is withdrawn from circulation it will cease to be an offical INEC document.

"Issued in Managua, Nicaragua, on the 12th day of December, INEC."

Gladly, I take advantage of this opportunity to reiterate to Your Excellency my highest and most distinguished considerations and appreciation.

[Signed] Francisco Quinones Reyes, Ambassador

PEASANTS FLEEING COMBAT REGION IN CORINTO

PA032233 Bogota Emisoras CARACOL Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Bogota -- The mayor of Corinto, Narciso Larena has reported as increasing exodus of peasants from San Pedro, San Pablo, and Yarumales, as a result of the constant clashes between the Army and the 19 April Movement, M-19. According to an official report, a total of 298 persons have been placed in schools and public buildings in Corinto, where they arrived after abandoning their homes and other belongings in the zones where the armed clashes are taking place. Meanwhile, the Defense Ministry admitted that four soldiers were killed and seven wounded during the recent clashes in the region of San Pablo.

BRIEFS

BUDGET FOR 1985 -- Colombian President Belisario Betancur has approved the 1985 budget in the amount of 457.40 billion pesos. In the budget, 264.36 billion pesos have been earmarked for operating expenses; 79.97 billion pesos for public investment, and 113.07 billion pesos to pay interest on the nation's debts, both national and foreign. It has also been reported that the approved budget bears a deficit estimated to be 190 billion pesos by the Colombian Government, but other sectors estimate the deficit is about 300 billion pesos. [Summary] [Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 27 Dec 84 p 3 A PA]

BELAUNDE URGES NATIONAL RECONCILIATION

PY031352 Lima Radioprogramas del Peru in Spanish 0330 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] President Fernando Belaunde has advocated the revival of a movement of national reconciliation, committing himself to lead such a movement once the elections are over.

The chief of state stated that we must give signs of unity, reiterating that for the good of the country there must be coordination and not rivalry and arrogance.

NAVY OFFICIALS INSTALLED, CONDEMN TERRORISM

Shining Path 'Murderous Horde'

PY031332 Lima Televisora Lima in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Vice Admiral Geronimo Cafferata Marazzi, the new Navy commander, today branded the Shining Path a murderous horde. He made this statement during his installation ceremony at the Navy Ministry.

During his speech, the new Navy commander, Vice Adm Cafferata Marazzi, endorsed the democratic system and championed consistent and complete respect for the Constitution.

Cafferata Marazzi stated that our beloved country is now enduring the aggression of insane hordes who break its heart shedding the blood of thousands of innocent citizens.

Operations Chief's Comments

PY041136 Lima Cadena Panamericana Television in Spanish 0200 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Vice Admiral Julio Pacheco Concha Hubner was installed as the new general commander of naval operations on 3 January. The installation ceremony took place aboard the cruiser Aguirre.

Adm Pacheco stated that terrorism will be eliminated in Peru and that the Marines are committed to that struggle. The terrorists are a subhuman group that is seeking to destroy the democratic system, Pacheco added.

VALDIVIA SWORN IN AS CIVIL GUARD DIRECTOR

PY031525 Lima Televisora Lima in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Lieutenant General Juan Valdivia Fuentes was formally installed today as the director of the Civil Guard. Interior Minister Oscar Brush administered the oath of office at noon on 2 January.

MORALES PAUL ON BORDER INCIDENT WITH COLOMBIA

PA030355 Caracas Radio Rumbos Network in Spanish 2100 GMT 2 Jan 85

[By Luis Alfredo Gomez]

[Text] The Venezuelan Government has decided that the border incident resulting from the definitely unauthorized entry of Colombian military helicopters into Venezuelan territory is closed. Venezuelan Foreign Minister Isidro Morales Paul, in explaining Venezuela's position, said that the apologies conveyed by the Colombian Government were satisfactory.

[Begin recording] [Morales Paul] Indeed, this morning, the Colombian ambassador to Venezuela delivered a note conveying Colombia's apologies to the Venezuelan Government for the incident and explaining that this was an antinarcotics operation by the police in the Colombian northern zone, La Guajira Department, aimed at locating drug processing laboratories and clandestine airstrips. In fact, the operation was a success because a U.S.-registered plane and 368 marijuana packages weighing 9,600 kg and 1,043 kg of cocaine were confiscated.

The note apologized for the entry into Venezuelan territory. Since the Colombian Government sent its apologies, the Venezuelan Government considers the incident closed.

[Unidentified reporter] Does this satisfy the Venezuelan Government?

[Morales Paul] Yes, we consider the incident closed because the Colombian Government apologized.

[Reporter] Are there any assurances that this kind of incident will not happen again? You have stated that it was part of an operation to combat drug trafficking and that these operations will continue.

[Morales Paul] This is a normal incident between neighboring countries. We must not blow it out of proportion. The national government sent a protest note to Colombia and the note was received. We must learn from this experience that incidents of this kind can take place between neighboring countries.

[Reporter] Can the incident mark the beginning of a comprehensive or more thorough border agreement to combat drug trafficking?

[Morales Paul] I think so. We must look at the positive side of this incident. Perhaps we could reach an agreement at the police level, to allow police commands to communicate directly with each other so as to settle any questions or prevent any mistakes like this one from recurring. [end recording]

BRIEFS

PRESIDENTIAL COMMITTEE -- Venezuelan President Jaime Lusinchi issued Decree No 404 on 17 December 1984, creating the Presidential Committee To Reform the State [Comision Presidencial para la Reforma del Estado]. It will conduct research and make proposals to determine the guidelines, policies, and actions to be followed to establish a modern state that responds to the needs and requirements of Venezuelan society. The committee will act as an advisory body to the president of the Republic and channel its actions and recommendations through the Ministry of the Secretariat of the Presidency. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 19 Dec 84 p A 13 PA]

FOREIGN SECRETARIAT ON RELATIONS WITH NICARAGUA

FL032150 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2010 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid today designated Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda and the president of the Senate's Grand Commission, Miguel Gonzalez Avelar as the Mexican Government's representatives to Commander Daniel Ortega's inauguration as president of Nicaragua. According to the Mexican Foreign Secretariat, the Mexican delegation will also include Ambassador to Nicaragua Augusto Gomez Villanueva.

Ortega was elected president of his country last 4 November, and will be inaugurated 10 January.

The Foreign Secretariat said that at the inauguration ceremony, the members of the Mexican mission will reiterate their government's firm decision to continue strengthening the ties of cooperation and friendship between Mexico and Nicaragua. The delegation will also reaffirm the Mexican Government's willingness to continue contributing to establishing the conditions of peace based on unrestricted respect for the principles of nonintervention and a nation's free self determination.

COSTA RICAN DEPUTY MINISTER ON U.S., CONTADORA

FL032044 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 1735 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City, 3 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- Costa Rican Deputy Foreign Minister Jorge Antonio Urbina said today that although the United States attributes its increased militarism in Central America to a growing communist presence in the region, U.S. intervention in the region is worrisome.

On arriving in Mexico City to discuss the Contadora process, Urbina said that the obstacles to achieving peace in Central America were a result of the large quantities of weapons entering the region. The official said the Contadora Group members would meet 8-9 January and that, with the latest revisions to the proposals, an equitable document will emerge, incorporating verification mechanisms and guarantees for peace in Central America. Urbina said Contadora's work was a serious effort at dealing with the crisis in Central America politically, economically, and socially. Finally, the deputy foreign minister said he was also visiting Mexico to discuss the proposals Mexican officials had made to the Contadora Group, Honduras, El Salvador, Costa Rica, and Guatemala.

PRESIDENT MEETS WITH CONGRESS MEMBERS, PRAISES WORK

PA032327 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 31 Dec 84 pp 1, 4

[By Marco A. Mares]

[Excerpts] President Miguel de la Madrid said yesterday that Mexicans should feel satisfied that the economic crisis has not caused a deterioration in political life and that the country's constitutional institutions are not only intact, but have been strengthened to maintain a climate of respect for the freedoms established in the Constitution of the Republic. He said that as a nation "we have been able to face economic difficulties and the social complications resulting from them," although he admitted that "we have not solved all our problems, nor have we fulfilled all our goals. But we have altered the negative tendencies that have threatened the country for the past 3 years."

During consecutive meetings with members of Congress, who visited the official residence in Los Pinos to report on the closure of the 3d ordinary session of the 52d congressional term and the appointment of the Permanent Grand Commission, President De la Madrid expressed his confidence that "there is no problem, no matter how big, that can alter the firm determination of the Mexican people to remain an independent and free country, never bending to outside adversities."

President De la Madrid spoke briefly on three occasions during his meetings with deputies and senators, which took place without the presence of the news media. To the deputies commission headed by Humberto Lugo Gil, De la Madrid said that regardless of the political parties to which they belong, all should feel satisfied with their actions as representatives of the Mexican people. He also told them that the work of Congress is important, but so is political debate and the discussion of the nation's great problems. "I am pleased that we have been able to find ways of collaborating and that the executive branch, by closely following the work carried out by the Chamber of Deputies, has been able to view the various trends of public opinion reflected in that chamber within the democratic pluralism we are interested in improving."

Later, after Miguel Gonzalez Avelar reported about the installation of a new Congress Permanent Commission, President De la Madrid said that Mexicans should feel satisfied with the year 1984, especially because the country's institutions are not only intact, but have developed according to the unwavering democratic commitments of the Mexican people.

He added that "with the strength of our constitutional institutions, established by the Mexican revolution, we have preserved freedom and have also been capable as a nation of facing economic difficulties and social complications. With imagination, with the talent of all the social groups, especially the large ones, we have been able to overcome the negative trends that have been threatening our country for the past 3 years."

President De la Madrid said that "we have not solved all the problems, we have not fulfilled all our goals, but we have changed the course of the negative trends." However, he added that 1985 will be a year that will still require the effort, solidarity, talent, and goodwill of all Mexicans. He added: We must face 1985 with reasonable optimism, but mainly with confidence in our institutions.

De la Madrid told the senators that the Senate "can by no means be considered an inoperative or lackluster organism," and he expressed to them his recognition of the activity, political imagination, and patriotism that characterize their work. "The legislative task has been carried out professionally," he added.

DE LA MADRID SEEKS 'RESTRUCTURED' WORLD ECONOMY

FL032326 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish 2200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Excerpt] Mexico City 3 Jan (NOTIMEX) -- President Miguel de la Madrid today warned that the danger of violence and war exists and that therefore, a restructured international economic system is urgently needed to manage problems in a logical manner. At a New Year's event held by the Labor Congress [CT] at the National Palace, the president said his administration is directly concerned about what happends outside Mexico's borders if it concerns the danger of a war. Before leaders of 36 labor, worker, and employee organizations, President De la Madrid reiterated that Mexico will follow an active, responsible, and peaceful foreign policy and will defend the nation's overall interests, national independence, sovereignty, and the right to political self-determination.

COSTA RICA

FOREIGN MINISTER MEETS WITH U.S. AMBASSADOR

PA032209 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Curtin Winsor, the American ambassador to Costa Rica, and Costa Rican Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez met yesterday afternoon to discuss matters of bilateral interest and plan cooperative actions for this year. It was a general conversation on the actions of the Contadora Group, and the ambassador expressed confidence in remaining in Costa Rica as the representative of the United States, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said, adding that he has received no official information on a possible replacement of Ambassador Curtin Winsor, which indicates that he will most likely stay on as U.S. ambassador here.

EL SALVADOR

NO CHANGES IN CABINET PLANNED BEFORE MIDYEAR

PA040250 San Salvador EL DIARIO DE HOY in Spanish 3 Jan 85 pp 3, 23

[Text] Until yesterday afternoon, Wednesday, Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte had not requested the resignation of any of his cabinet members. This was reported by a high-ranking government official. The official also denied that the cabinet had resigned on the occasion of the year's end. Our source added that during a meeting between President Duarte and his colleagues one of them, speaking on behalf of them all, offered his resignation to the president. "It is not true that President Duarte requested the resignation of his minister and deputy ministers," the source added.

He also rejected any changes among President Duarte's colleagues, "because the man is satisfied with the work being done by each of them." It was learned that it will not be until midyear until Duarte possibly requests resignations, that is when the Christian Democratic Party government celebrates its first year in office. Meanwhile, government employees will return to work on 3 January after 11 days of rest on the occasion of the Christmas and New Year holidays.

GUATEMALA

LEFTISTS JOIN TO FORM SINGLE POLITICAL PARTY

PA040323 Guatemala City Radio-Television Guatemala in Spanish 0400 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Today, several leftist political committees formed a coalition with the United Revolutionary Front [FUR]. The new coalition leader's (Rolando Quintana) reported on the committees involved:

[Begin recording] The FUR, the New Force, the Democratic Revolutionary Union, the Democratic Socialist Party, and the Center for Development Studies form the coalition. In addition, the doors remain open for other groups to join the coalition. [end recording]

Political leader Rolando Quintana said that the new party does not yet have a name.

[Begin recording] This is the result of the negotiations which have taken place for many months and which have been very intense. The coalition can really only be seen as the result of our good will to dispel the apathy which the Guatemalan citizens have felt towards the permanent and historic disunity of Guatemalan leftists. The historic disunity among Guatemalan leftists began in 1944 and continues to this day. In order to reject that disunity, that [words indistinct] of forces, all of us who represent the democratic leftist ideologies have now agreed to form a single political party. The name of that party will be determined, at a January seminar in Guatemala City where a series of conditions will be studied. Delegates from all of Guatemala's municipalities will participate in that seminar. [end recording]

AGREEMENT ON AREA CUSTOMS, TARIFFS SIGNED

PA281912 Guatemala City EL GRAFICO in Spanish 28 Dec 84 p 2

[Summary] Guatemala City, 27 Dec -- Guatemala and Nicaragua today signed an agreement on a Central American customs and tariff system. The agreement also includes Costa Rica and El Salvador and will subsequently be signed by Honduras. The agreement was signed by Guatemalan Economy Minister Leonel Hernandez Cardona and Nicaraguan Charge d'Affaires Ernesto Cordero at the headquarters of the Secretariat of Central American Economic Integration. The document states that the system is a basic instrument for the Central American economic integration process and seeks, among other objectives, to strengthen the development of the productive sectors, help attain the foreign trade goals of the signatories, contribute to the equal distribution of the benefits and costs of economic integration, and improve the organization and administration of the Central American customs services in order to gradually consolidate a regional customs and tariff system.

HONDURAS

PRESIDENT REPLIES TO CHARGES OF MEDDLING IN TNE

PA031755 Tegucigalpa Televisora Hondurena in Spanish 0130 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Letter from Honduran President Roberto Suazo Cordova to the members of the National Electoral Tribunal, TNE; date not given]

[Text] Members of the TNE, Tegucigalpa

Honorable members:

I address you as president of the Republic in reference to the statements that some persons of ill-will have made to the press and radio, accusing me of interfering in the affairs that are the exclusive concern of the TNE and the National Civil Registry. It has been reported in public statements, radio interviews, and newspapers that the president of the Republic is intervening in these two institutions in order to halt the issuance of documents to citizens and to achieve his continuation in high public office.

As this honorable tribunal knows, I have been aboveboard at all times in my faithful respect for and observance of the constitutional principles that govern the lives of the Hondurans. Due to deep-rooted convictions, I believe in a loyal respect for the state's juridical structure that must be strengthened even more when one is trying to consolidate the democratic system. In this sense, the charges to which I am referring are both false and reckless. I firmly reject them because they are an attack on my sense of responsibility as president and my dignity as a citizen.

In view of the above, I respectfully and kindly address the honorable TNE so that as the entity responsible for the legal development of the electoral process for the 1985 elections, it will continue the appropriate investigations on the aforementioned accusations. I will also be grateful if the honorable tribunal will tell me whether I, as president of the Republic or as a citizen, have in any way interfered in affairs that are the exclusive concern of the TNE and the National Civil Registry as the slander and charges that I have mentioned states.

As you honorable members of the TNE can confirm, the only intervention that has been carried out with regard to the two institutions has been to undertake the corresponding efforts and give the precise instructions so that the Finance and Public Credit Secretariat will allocate sufficient funds to financially support and therefore make more dynamic the actions of the two state institutions.

In denying the charges, I wish to use this opportunity to refer to the statements that TNE Secretary Adan Palacios made to the media at the end of 1984. In his remarks, the TNE secretary, who is a member of the Christian Democratic Party, clearly stated that as of 17 December, more than 1.5 million requests for identification cards had been presented. Asked his opinion about an alleged fear that the electoral process will be prolonged due to abnormalities in the electoral institutions, as the newspaper LA TRIBUNA reported, the TNA secretary replied in the following manner: There is no justification. There has been an electoral census of 1.5 million people which is the same figure as that of the 1981 census. He added that more than 1 million identification cards have been issued and that no pretext exists to suspend the electoral process since we are ready for the 1985 elections. These remarks represent irrefutable evidence of the normal and facile way that work is being carried out in the TNE and the National Civil Registry.

I reiterate to the honorable TNA members my request to be notified of the results of the relevant investigations. Wishing you well-being and success in the new year, I use this opportunity to reiterate my esteem.

[Signed] President Roberto Suazo Cordova

FOREIGN SECRETARY REPONDS TO MISURA THREATS

PA040304 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 2229 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Tegucigalpa, 3 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- Honduran Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica said today that Nicaraguan counterrevolutionaries should be "kicked out of Honduras."

Speaking after a meeting of the National Security Council, Paz Barnica sharply censured the Nicaraguan indigenous group Miskitos, Sumus and Ramas [Misura], which today threatened to execute 23 Sandinist prisoners. "I understand that this gentleman was a Somozist," the foreign secretary said when the name of the commander in chief of Misura's forces, Steadman Fagoth, was mentioned.

M , which groups Miskito, Sumu, and Rama Indian rebels, wants to exchange the 23 Sandinists for 10 of its fighters who were captured by the Sandinist People's Army.

In Tegucigalpa there are press offices of the opposition Nicaraguan Democratic Force (FDN), of the political commission of Misura, and of an organization called Chichicaste, which collects funds for the Nicaraguan Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE), also up in arms against the Sandinist government.

However, the Honduran Government and the country's Armed Forces have never officially admitted to the presence of armed anti-Sandinist groups in Honduran territory, and moreover, they have repeatly reaffirmed that "no armed attacks against other states of the area will be allowed" from that nation.

'CONTINUISMO' THREATENS DEVELOPMENT OF DEMOCRACY

PA032200 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1145 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Editorial: "Continuismo and Political Darkness"]

[Text] Once again the national political panorama became confusing when, in a sensationalist statement Nationalist leader Mario Rivera Lopez, in the midst of Radio America's 'Political Coffee Break' program yesterday, said that he had been invited to be an accomplice to the presidential continuismo, but that he had rejected this proposition, in which he said, he was told that the candidacy of engineer Carlos Flores Facusse was not serious.

Although Rivera Lopez refused to reveal the name of the person who made the proposition or insinuation, taking into account the credibility of the announcement and believing that the Nationalist leader has no reason to invent delicate issues such as this, it is to be supposed that the proposition came from an influential member of the Liberal Party.

Rivera Lopez' revelation was disturbing, and once again confuses the Honduran political panorama. For some time there has been a strange odor, several deputies reiterating that the president's continuismo is serious, and that there are judicial indications that could facilitate the extension of Dr Suazo Cordova's presidential term. If this is true, we can state that the Honduran democratic process is not on the right path, and is moving in quicksand where sooner or later it would sink.

When all seemed clear within the governing party, with a presidential nominee like Carlos Flores Facusse, supported by the president, with a strong dissident leader like engineer Azcona del Hoyo who aspires to the nomination, and with Efrain Bu Giron, president of the National Congress preparing a strong campaign platform, this new situation emerges clearly indicating that there are attempts to consolidate the president's continuismo. This should not be taken as unimportant speculation. The accusation has been made by Rivera Lopez, a Honduran who also has aspirations, a man who could not enter the realm of invention because he would also be creating his own downfall.

Continuismo was proposed to Rivera Lopez, and to make the proposal more digestible, he was told that the candidacy of Flores Facusse would not succeed. What about this? At the same time, from Olanchito, the candidacy of Elvin Ernesto Santos was proclaimed. Santos has said that he is studying the possibility. We are of the conviction that all that was said the discredit Flores Facusse was a pale argument by the rest of the aspiring nominees to weaken the figure of this young leader. However, saying it as Nationalist leader Mario Rivera Lopez said it yesterday, without pressure, in this booth, we must believe that with all this movement in the sea, with the constant rumbling of the stones, the muddy waters are drawing something from the reddened political river, where the great captain of the ship, the only one who decides if it floats or sinks, is the coordinator of Rodismo [Liberal Party group headed by Modesto Rodas Alvarado], the president himself. We had already questioned the reason for so much interest, why the dementia among Deputies (Tono Ardon), (Chacon Soto), the communications ministers, and other officials, in advocating the need for continuismo.

It could be believed, as Dr Ramon Villeda Bermudez said last night at the Rotary Club, that these deputies advocate continuismo so that they can continue enjoying presidential favor and maintain their seats in Congress. However this, in all sincerity, is not the entire truth. The deputies, no matter how ignorant, understand that the damage they could cause the democratic process with continuismo is irreparable. However, they do not measure this damage in order to continue believing that if the president continues in power, they will continue in the National Congress, earning 5,000 lempiras monthly, which they probably would not earn if they cease to be deputies.

We are beginning to believe that for an unaffected deputy such as (Tono Ardon), to bend his elbow speaking about the presidential continuismo, and in tandem with (Chacon Soto) request continuismo, something stronger supports them so that their sermonizing can be felt, as when feelers are put out to see which way the wind is blowing. This is called feeling out the situation. The feelers are put out, others are allowed to direct them to see if the results are favorable to initiating a campaign or not.

In the sounding out of continuismo launched in Honduras, the cannon fodder used have been two deputies of little prestige, and a few others who very timidly, so as not to reach the burning point, at times, in the midst of an outburst of laughter, say that they would favor the president's continuism. If what was said here yesterday by Mario Rivera Lopez is true, and we all think that it is, because we have no reason to doubt his word, we have returned to political darkness, as the great Spanish philosopher Jose Ortega y Gasset used to say when he referred to the uncertainty that malicious persons artificially create in order to gain particular profits for themselves and no one else, in the political game.

We say that we have returned to political darkness because when less that 1 year before elections are to be held a president aspires to continue in power is a very serious matter in a country where a Constitution was recently enacted which clearly prohibits reelection or continuism in any possible way.

The president says on occasion that he will not sit in the presidential chair a day more or a day less than he should. However, something hints at insincerity: He says no, but the deputies that are closest to him, who have bowed at his feet, say yes, and the president has not stopped these kinds of statements which contradict his. It could almost be understood that the president likes and enjoys such contradictions that the deputies who are desperately hailing continuism make.

We ask ourselves: If what Rivera Lopez said is true, or at least what they said to Mario Rivera, that Suazo Cordova wants to continue in power 2 more years and that there is nothing serious in the candidacy of Carlos Flores Facusse is true, this would be more serious than the unimportant dispute between pro-government and dissident liberals. To speak of continuism is a matter of violating the Constitution and that is the feel that the democratic process in Honduras is swimming in the turbulent waters of dictatorship. Once and for all, we suggest to the presidnet that he disentangle this mysterious and fearful intrigue that those deputies who continue to insist on continuism have created. However, we ask that he do it bluntly, not with lukewarm statements that later are immediately forgotten because they do not go beyond words and because of the weakness with which they are made.

This calls for a serious communique, in the style of the one General Policarpo Paz Garcia issued 2 weeks before the elections to the National Constituent Assemly in 1979, when the Army, through Paz Garcia, in a special radio and television network, assured that it did not support the National Party of Honduras. A communique or statement in that line would clear up Honduras' political scene and would dissipate the fog that increased with the statement that Nationalist leader Mario Rivera Lopez made in this studio yesterday.

PAZ BARNICA ON RESOLVING SALVADORAN BORDER DISPUTE

PA031701 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Interview with Foreign Secretary Edgardo Paz Barnica; date and place not given -- recorded; broadcast in progress]

[Text] [Paz Barnica] ...border delimitation with El Salvador because 1985 will be a year of political activities and an extremely difficult and complex year, particularly in a country like ours, that is passing through a transition period in order to consolidate a democratic regime. This regime has sprung out of people's sovereignty and respect for the Constitution. In addtion, the deadline stipulated in the 1980 general peace treaty for direct negotiations with El Salvador will end in December 1985. For this reason, the Honduran Government will continue to make all possible efforts to resolve this border issue through direct negotiations. Should this mechanism fail, we will have to go to The Hague International Court of Justice.

[Unidentified reporter] Have the personnel for the Honduran Embassy at The Hague been appointed?

[Paz Barnica] I will ask for these appointments in January.

[Reporter] Considering the Salvadorans' delaying actions regarding the Honduras-El Salvador border negotiations, do you think that this disagreement will be taken to The Hague for resolution?

[Paz Barnica] Whether the border issue will be taken to The Hague court or not is part of the issue. I think that during the direct negotiation process, we still have a full year for it, we should be able to make headway in reducing the issues under discussion without jeopardizing the interests of the two countries. Through President Suazo Cordova, the Honduran Government has publicly expressed its willingness to resolve the border issue patriotically. Significant (?progress) has been observed over the past few months, during which the presidents of the two countries met twice and agreed to hold direct negotiations in the framework of the 1980 general peace treaty.

[Reporter] What is your opinion on the visit by Salvadoran Government officials and military officers to the Meanguera Island?

[Paz Barnica] Well, they think the island belongs to them. So do we. Let's see how far we can get in the direct negotiations regarding the controversy on sea areas and islands. We can always resort to The Hague court. It is extremely important to speed up direct negotiations during this year.

[Reporter] Doesn't this violate the general peace treaty?

[Paz Barnica] I think that we can act carefully to keep this general peace treaty in effect. This treaty is the basic international legal framework for resolving the border disagreement.

[Reporter] Do you think that the border problems with El Salvador will be resolved this year?

[Paz Barnica] I cannot say that because if we have to go to The Hague court for either a full or partial discussion of the issue, on the basis of the headway we make during the direct negotiatons in the framework of the general peace treaty, this will not happen until 1986.

[Reporter] What is your opinion on the Armed Forces report on investigations regarding alleged missing persons?

[Paz Barnica] I returned to the country on 28 December for the year end commemoration. I read the Armed Forces communique on the report delivered to President Suazo. This report will be considered in the National Security Council meeting being held tomorrow. For this reason, I cannot express an opinion on a document I am not familiar with. The Armed Forces pledged to pursue an investigation and present a report on the findings before the end of the year, and they did. In addition, human rights, not only because there is provision in the Constitution for them, but because there are international pledges as well, should be protected and defended with all clearness and energy. Should there be someone found to be involved in violations, regardless of his position, as the result of investigations carried out by security organizations, of the Armed Forces or otherwise, those guilty should be severely punished. The Honduran people have a right to learn of this.

[Reporter] Do you think that this report is trustworthy?

[Paz Barnica] I am not familiar with it and therefore cannot express an opinion on it, but I do think the Armed Forces are trustworthy as an institution. It is not necessary to study the report in order to know this.

NICARAGUA

ORTEGA DISCUSSES FOREIGN, DOMESTIC POLICY

DW021750 Hamburg DER SPIEGEL in German 31 Dec 84 pp 78-83

[Interview with President-elect Daniel Ortega by SPIEGEL editors Enrique Mueller-Cargus and Hans Hielscher in Managua, date not given]

[Text] SPIEGEL: Commander Ortega, does your election as president of Nicaragua spell the end of your life as a guerrilla?

Ortega: That depends on the U.S. Government. I have taken charge of a new task. But in the event of an invasion I am always prepared to take my place as a fighter.

SPIEGEL: As a guerrilla, you took power with arms. It was by ballot that you became president. Which means more to you?

Ortega: I value one as much as the other. In both cases, the people unequivocally manifested their will. In one case, they made the decision with arms, in the other they voted for change.

SPIEGEL: When you worked in the underground as a student and later spent years in jail, did you believe that society could be changed by means of ballot slips?

Ortega: At that time, I had no respect for elections. They did not seem to me to be a solution for Nicaragua. Here, the Somoza regime had totally monopolized elections and stripped them of any credibility. My parents never went to the polls. When I became politically active as a boy we engaged the National Guard in street battles and set fire to vehicles of the National Guard and the U.S. Embassy. I did not see any sense in elections at the time.

SPIEGEL: How do you see elections today?

Ortega: I believe that they are a good exercise in democracy, provided the proper conditions exist. For the first time in Nicaragua's history, the people had the opportunity to participate in truly free elections and to express their opinion by casting their vote without pressure.

SPIEGEL: The majority voted for you. As president of Nicaragua you are taking charge of a task that is anything but enviable: The state spends more than one-third of its budget on weapons. Students are sent to military training instead of classes and lectures. In 1984, the inflation rate is higher than 60 percent. There are enormous supply problems. Just recently you yourself said that Nicaragua is practically bankrupt. Does this state of affairs not show that serious mistakes have been made in 5 and 1/2 years of Sandinist rule?

Ortega: Let me first clarify something. We obtain our weapons through credits and donations. This is why we do not spend $1 of foreign exchange on arms and purchases.

SPIEGEL: It is not true that half of the foreign exchange proceeds from exports goes into defense?

Ortega: It does, but not into weapons purchases. If we talk about defense we mean the wages of the workers who are mobilized, the soldiers' pay, their food, gasoline for the Armed Forces. These are the effects of the country's defense on our national budget.

SPIEGEL: And you are receiving weapons as a present? Your brother Humberto, the defense minister, mentioned once that Greece had donated weapons.

Ortega: Normally we do not divulge any information about the origin of our weapons. But I can assure you that in contracts on arms deliveries, we always seek a form that will not burden the budget.

SPIEGEL: And you did not make any mistakes in your economic policy?

Ortega: First of all, we should take a look at the world situation which has been marked by a profound economic crisis since the triumph of our revolution. The Third World countries have been particularly affected.

SPIEGEL: What does that mean for Nicaragua?

Ortega: When we took power in 1979, a deep depression had thrown the country back to the level of 1962. By now, after all, we have attained the old production figures again and in some instances even surpassed them. In the last harvest we brought in more than 1.4 million hundredweight of coffee; it never came to more than 1.2 million hundredweight before. Nicaragua is the only country in Central America to show economic growth in the past 5 years.

SPIEGEL: Then why did you speak of bankruptcy?

Ortega: Because of the international trade relations, the price development. Our agricultural export goods prices increased by a mere 10 percent over the past several years, while the prices of everything we have to buy abroad rose by 72 percent. So we have a deficit of 62 percent. In addition to these adverse effects due to the world economic system, there is the direct war of aggression waged by the United States against Nicaragua. Two factors caused the profound crisis in our economy and society.

SPIEGEL: Surely you can saddle United States with part of the blame. But is it not necessary to act diplomatically toward such a powerful neighbor? It is wise to have the Sandinist anthem say: "The Yankee is the enemy of mankind?"

Ortega: If we say: "Yankee, enemy of mankind," we naturally do not mean the U.S. people but the evil U.S. policy vis-a-vis our people. The Yankee is a figure which we use to describe this policy. It was thanks to this U.S. policy that the Somoza dictatorship held its own. In this sense, the Yankee is the enemy of mankind because he has supported criminal dictatorships throughout Central America. We won victory with this anthem and we did not amend it because it is part of Nicaragua's history. The anthem reflects the state of relations between the United States and our country.

SPIEGEL: But they need not stay that way.

Ortega: When our revolution triumphed, we sought better relations with the United States. I met with President Carter in Washington. We discussed quite frankly the mistakes made by the United States vis-a-vis Nicaragua and the fact that the United States had a great opportunity to win the confidence of this people. For his part, President Carter expressed his concern that the Nicaraguan revolution might become allied with the USSR militarily. It was a fruitful dialogue. I believe that President Carter seriously worked for better relations.

SPIEGEL: Carter's successor, Ronald Reagan, has just been elected to another term. Will you be signing the Sandinist anthem also as president?

Ortega: Why, of course. Reagan has resumed the traditional U.S. policy of threats and invasions in Latin America. I believe that any possibility for an understanding with the U.S. Government is over and past. This U.S. Government has declared war on the people of Nicaragua. This Yankee murders children in our country every day. This is why it is our duty to sign the verse which says "Yankee, enemy of mankind."

SPIEGEL: The Yankees accuse you of militarizing your country, of creating an Army that disturbs the balance in the region: more than 100,000 men in arms, more than 100 tanks, and now you even to purchase MIG-21 aircraft. Why is there this arms buildup?

Ortega: It is perfectly ridiculous for those governing in the United States to speak of militarization here. After all, the whole world knows that the United States is arming madly, and not just in this region. Who installs missiles in Europe, anyway? Who even enhances the war machinery in outer space? The Americans are investing billions.

SPIEGEL: By its standards, Nicaragua is also arming excessively.

Ortega: I would like to deny these people the moral right to speak of an escalation of armament in the case of Nicaragua. The United States finances and arms mercenaries, mines our ports, and violates international law. But if and when we purchase weapons for our own defense, they say that this is escalation. This attitude of the United States reminds me of a torturer who tormented me in my youth; he was outraged when I tried to protect myself against his blows with my raised hands.

SPIEGEL: What triggered the latest war of nerves with the United States against Niearagua was the mysterious Soviet freighter Bakuriani. Why did it take the detour around Cape Horn instead of going to Corinto via the Panama Canal? Did it have MIG-21 aircraft aboard?

Ortega: We do not divulge the cargoes brought by ships docking at our ports. But I assure you that Nicaragua does not bring nuclear missiles or other offensive weapons into the country.

SPIEGEL: The Americans compared this ship with its alleged cargo of MIG aircraft with the freighter that carried Soviet missiles to Cuba in 1962. Is there a parallel?

Ortega: The U.S. Government tries to influence public opinion in the United States in such a way that Washington can justify any action against Nicaragua. In early November the U.S. media reported daily on the elections here. But this changed suddenly when the U.S. Government unleashed hysteria with the purpose of launching a campaign against Nicaragua.

SPIEGEL: On several occasions, you said the United States would invade on certain dates, 15 October, for example. But the Americans did not come. Had you been wrongly informed?

Ortega: I did not say that the Americans would land in Nicaragua on 15 October. But 15 October marked the beginning of a plan which, after several phases, would culminate in an invasion.

SPIEGEL: What was the plan like?

Ortega: To begin with, mercenaries were to try to take important villages such as Esteli. Then tension with Costa Rica was to be provoked, tension with Costa Rica because Honduras, our other neighboring country, does not have as good an image as Costa Rica. Then the United States was supposed to come to Costa Rica's aid. These plans continue to exist. They are being amended continuously whenever we put obstacles in their path through military action or by exposing them in the international media. Espionage flights over Nicaragua, the U.S. military presence in Honduras, and the exercises around Nicaragua are indicative of the fact that the danger of an invasion is not over yet.

SPIEGEL: You really believe that the Americans might come, despite their Vietnam experience?

Ortega: We cannot rule out the possibility that they might make that mistake. The information received by the U.S. Government sometimes is completely wrong. Just think of Iran...

SPIEGEL: ...where Washington erroneously assessed the strength of the shah.

Ortega: Yes. And it might be with the mistaken belief that the people do not sympathize with the revolution that the United States might commit the folly of an invasion.

SPIEGEL: The invasion worked in Grenada.

Ortega: Grenada was an easy victory. There, even the people had been manipulated by the United States to the point where they supported the invasion. On that basis, they are now trying to influence public opinion in favor of a strike against Nicaragua.

SPIEGEL: The United States is suffering from a Cuban trauma. "To us Cuba is a great problem," Caspar Weinberger said, "another Cuba would double that problem."

Orgeta: Cuba does not threaten the United States while, conversely, the United States indeed represents a threat to Cuba.

SPIEGEL: Cuba has liberated itself from the grips of the American hegemonic power and today is part of the camp of the other superpower, the Soviet Union.

Ortega: Cuba is not a member of the Warsaw Pact.

SPIEGEL: But it is affiliated with the Eastern economic community CEMA.

Ortega: Yes, but economic and military relations are two different kettles of fish. I believe that Cuba's security does not depend on the Warsaw Pact. President Castro has said that Cuba will be defended by Cubans. Cuba's economic relations with the USSR and the socialist countries are close. But above all, Cuba plays an outstanding role in the Nonaligned Movement and helps countries of the Third World.

SPIEGEL: You really cannot call Cuba "nonaligned." How many Cubans are working in Nicaragua?

Ortega: About 4,000. If we add them to the development helpers from socialist countries, they still represents a smaller contingent here than the Western helpers.

SPIEGEL: How many of these 4,000 Cubans are military advisers?

Ortega: A minority is working in the military field; the majority is in the health and education sectors.

SPIEGEL: Fidel Castro claimed that there were only 200 military advisers ...

Ortega: That is why I am saying: It is just a minority.

SPIEGEL: Following the Cuban model, Nicaragua has set up neighborhood for the protection of the revolution throughout the country. As in Cuba, the party in Nicaragua controls the Army. Is the Cuban society the model for your country?

Ortega: There are considerable differences between Cuba and Nicaragua. In Cuba, a goal of the revolution was defined quite early. In Nicaragua, in contrast, we are pursuing a democratic, nationalist project: pluralism, a mixed economy (of private and state enterprises), nonalignment. We agree with Cuba with regard to the foreign policy principle of nonalignment but not with regard to the internal organization of society.

SPIEGEL: You mean that Cuba is not a good example for you?

Ortega: Not that it is a bad example. Yet one revolution does not necessarily have to do the same as another. Nicaragua's reality is different from the conditions in Cuba.

SPIEGEL: Cuba is a one-party state. In your country there are other parties in addition to the leading Sandinist party, the FSLN. Some of these parties did not participate in the November elections. What do you think caused this?

Ortega: The U.S. Government exerted influence on opposition politicians to withdraw from the election. It desires a military solution for Nicaragua and therefore was not interested in elections.

SPIEGEL: Do you have proof of U.S. influence?

Ortega: Virgilio Godoy, the presidential candidate of the Independent Liberal Party, PLI, met with a CIA agent in the U.S. Embassy the day before he announced that he would withdraw from the elections.

SPIEGEL: This may be proof for your assumption, but it might be something else. The opposition parties justly lamented the fact that they had access to the mass media only in the weeks before the elections. Will you as president grant this opportunity to the opposition politicians?

Ortega: All parties that participated in the elections have gained the right to a place in the National Assembly and will have access to the mass media.

SPIEGEL: The opposition in parliament, however, represents only part of the opposition. There is a far greater opposition outside parliament.

Ortega: I don't believe so. Of the 1.5 million Nicaraguans eligible to vote 1.2 million cast their vote, 700,000 voted for the FSLN and more than 300,000 for the other parties.

SPIEGEL: But the 300,000 people eligible to vote who did not go to the polls could have been votes for the opposition, as even your minister of the interior, Commander Borge, said. How do you propose to deal with the extraparliamentary opposition that is not represented in the National Assembly?

Ortega: We are trying to include it in the national dialogue. Alas, this opposition sabotages the National Assembly. Now it is in fact excluded from the political decision decisionmaking in this country.

PSIEGEL: Will it have access to the mass media?

Ortega: It has its mouthpiece in the opposition paper LA PRENSA. But it will not, of course, be government policy to promote this opposition's access to the media.

SPIEGEL: Opposition politicians lately have been denied exit permits from Nicaragua. Why?

Ortega: In this country anyone can come and leave as he sees fit.

SPIEGEL: The politicians have supplied concrete proof of how they were not allowed to leave.

Ortega: There were some people who still had multiple exist visas. This is against regulations. Surely they gave this as the reason they were not allowed to leave.

SPIEGEL: No. Enrique Bolanos, the chairman of the Higher Council of Private Enterprise, for example, arrived at the airport with a passport that was in order. He handed it to the pertinent official for stamping. When he got his passport back, one page was missing and he was told that he could not leave the country for this reason. Is something like this official policy?

Ortega: No, this is not official policy. But it is true that Mr Bolanos can comfortably and calmly live here and that he is not even put on trial even though, as is generally known, he is a CIA agent. He can leave the country whenever he presents the necessary papers.

SPIEGEL: In late November, at any rate, he could not.

Ortega: I regard his press conference as an attempt to attract international attention now that the elections are over.

SPIEGEL: The national dialogue in the country you desire has failed, especially since you are not prepared to include the so-called contras in this debate. Why don't you talk with the contras?

Ortega: The contras are represented in another dialogue: the talks with the United States in the Mexican town of Manzanillo. The counterrevolutionary forces operating from their bases in Honduras and Nicaragua are represented by the United States there.

SPIEGEL: This means that you are conducting a dialogue with the contras via the United States?

Ortega: That is correct.

SPIEGEL: You had conferences with Brooklyn Rivera, a leader of the Miskito Indians who fought the Sandinists with arms from abroad. Can you imagine yourself talking in this office some day with contra leader Eden Pastora?

Ortega: These are totally different things: The Miskitos are a people who never took part in the struggle against Somoza. Due to their very individual problems, some of them have been victimized by the U.S. interventionist policy and left the country. But we also intend to include the Miskitos who went to Honduras and Costa Rica and participate in armed activities in the discussion on how the revolutioncan give the Miskitos a certain autonomy within the state of Nicaragua. For this reason, additional meeting with Brooklyn Rivera are planned.

SPIEGEL: And you do not wish to talk with Eden Pastor?

Ortega: Pastora is a leader who betrayed the Nicaraguan revolution and who quarrels with the other contra organization, the Nicaraguan Democratic Force [FDN], over the CIA dollars and over the CIA's domination over the mercenaries. We are conducting the dialogue with Pastora and Alfonso Robelo of the FDN via the boss of both -- the U.S. Government.

SPIEGEL: Pastora, after all, was a famous fighter against Somoza. It was he who led the raid on the national palace in 1978. In the revolution museum there are many photographs showing that. Why don't any of the pictures show Pastora?

Ortega: At the very moment when Pastora betrayed the revolution, he also dissociated himself from that action against the national palace. We see no sense in preserving the image of such a man.

SPIEGEL: Leaving Pastora aside, how could the alliance of Sandinists and bourgeoisie which overthrew Somoza 5 and 1/2 years ago fall apart?

Ortega: You must know that this alliance emerged shortly before the triumph of the revolution, when bourgeois politicians like Alfonso Robelo wanted to participate in the first government of national reconstruction. We showed these politicians the FSLN's program of principles and they accepted it. Then the revolution triumphed. We began to put the program into practice and the first clashes of interests ensued.

SPIEGEL: Can you give an example?

Ortega: Robelo was aware that the banks were supposed to be nationalized. But when we wanted to begin with that, he objected. He placed the interests of part of the bourgeoisie above the national program.

In this connection, I would like to stress that the revolution reserves an important place for the private sector. It continues to make a significant contribution and without it we would not, for example, have ever attained the production targets for cotton, coffee, and grain. This sector of the economy is mostly in private hands.

SPIEGEL: Why did you hold elections 5 and 1/2 years after your victory over Somoza? It would probably have been easier for you at an earlier time.

Ortega: We know that we would have obtained roughly 90 percent of the votes in 1980. But at the time, we decided that elections should be held only 5 years later. First we wanted to restore the economy and educate the people. We believed that 5 years after, the conditions in the country would be better materially and intellectually. We were probably a bit naive and did not reckon with the U.S. aggression.

SPIEGEL: Well, conditions today are anything but better. Your foreign exchange proceeds from exports this year amount to $400 million, but you need nearly $800 million just for necessary imports, for example, of spare parts. You cannot repay your foreign debts, so you have a hard time getting credits. The citizens complain about the disastrous conditions of the roads and about the shortage of lightbulbs, for example. How do you propose to cope with these problems?

Ortega: We do not know any formula for solving the economic problems, but we do know a way to tackle the difficulties better than the other countries in Central America. Take a look at Costa Rica and Honduras. Their governments are good friends of the United States. And yet, the United States was unable to help these countries solve their economic problems. How hard must it be for an enemy of the United States.

SPIEGEL: Let us return to domestic policy. Are the Sandinists prepared to fire incompetent officials?

Ortega: Political competence must give way to administrative and technical competence. Anyone making mistakes must be answerable for it even if he has excelled politically.

SPIEGEL: A minister of your government has said that many officials ought to be in jail for corruption. As president, will you take drastic measures?

Ortega: Some lower-level officials here have been jailed. But the higher officials of this government excel for their honesty and readiness to make sacrifices. Many of them make 5 to 10 times less than what they could earn in private companies and with multinational combines.

SPIEGEL: Your critics say that a new class is emerging in Nicaragua, a sort of Sandinist nomenklatura that is allowed to make purchases in special shops and own cars which a normal citizen cannot get.

Ortega: If an official here has a car, he does not have it for his own pleasure but for the purpose of facilitating his work. He is supposed to work 10 to 14 hours, however long it necessary. We also want to recognize the efforts of the highly qualified Nicaraguans working here even though they could live far better abroad and often are tempted with high dollar salaries.

SPIEGEL: And you do not see the danger that power corrupts?

Ortega: All of us are exposed to risks. Even Christ was exposed to the devil's temptations for over 40 days in the desert. So this is quite normal then, in a society like ours which has emerged from the deformities of the past.

SPIEGEL: As president will you change the leadership structures? You are no longer one among equals in the National Directorate of the nine commanders who so far made the important decisions.

Ortega: I believe that there is no responsible head of government in the world who would not resort to a collective. In the United States, for example, there is the National Security Council. It is even more important that we make decisions here jointly since we do have the tradition of collective political leadership.

SPIEGEL: Commander Ortega, thank you for this interview.

CENTRAL BANK SETS AIRLINE CURRENCY RESTRICTIONS

PA032012 Managua Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The Central Bank of Nicaragua today announced that it will no longer sell foreign currency to airlines operating in our country in exchange for cordobas or national currency obtained from the sale of their services to the public. The announcement was made through a communique issued by that institution to complement a decree issued by the Junta of the Government of National Reconstruction 2 days ago. That decree stated that airline tickets may be purchased by the public only with dollars.

The Central Bank measure covers services to the public including ticket sales, fines for excess baggage, cargo transportation, mail, or any other services. The communique added that all airlines will pay for local expenditures in national currency accumulated from the sale of services prior to the issuance of this directive. Once those reserves are used up, the airlines will obtain cordobas through negotiation with the Central Bank with dollars obtained from their operations at an exchange rate to be established later by the bank.

It also stated that airline expenditures that are necessarily being paid with dollars will continue to be paid in foreign currency; revenues from commissions obtained by travel agencies will be paid in dollars obtained from the Central Bank. The communique also stated that fuel expenses for planes can be paid in cordobas only during the first 15 days of January. The order to sell tickets in dollars and to not sell foreign currency to the airlines in exchange for cordobas obtained from the sale of their services is part of a government campaign to collect the greatest amount of hard currency in the face of the difficult economic situation in the country.

10TH ROUND OF MANZANILLO TALKS 'IN JANUARY'

PA040347 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] Mexico City -- Representatives of the U.S. and Nicaraguan Governments will hold their 10th round of talks to normalize bilateral relations in January, diplomatic sources in Mexico City reported today. The date of the next meeting between the representatives of the two governments has not been announced, but it will presumably be after 10 January, when Daniel Ortega will assume the presidency of Nicaragua. The same sources said that before the end of the month the United States and Nicaragua will resume talks at the Mexican port of Manzanillo.

PARTIES DIALOGUE COMMISSION REACHES CONSENSUS

PA032256 Managua Radio Noticias in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] We have reached a consensus, Social Christian leader Eric Ramirez said, referring to the work carried out by the Political Parties Commission, which is attempting to see if the national dialogue can be resumed. Here are Ramirez' statements:

[Begin recording] Basically, we have reached a consensus. The political parties that comprise the four-party commission have discussed political, economic, social and military issues. We also discussed other important issues that are seriously affecting Nicaraguans. The document we have drafted deals with all these aspects and, as I said before, other important issues because it represents a consensus reached by the political parties involved. We feel that the fact that the four-party commission, representing various ideological trends, has reached a consensus is in itself a significant step toward resuming the national dialogue. We also believe that based on this effort, the other parties will join us in taking more significant action. Honestly, we feel we have met expectations and complied with the work assigned to the commission. [end recording]

LA PRENSA FAILS TO CIRCULATE 2 JANUARY

PA031429 Paris AFP in Spanish 0206 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Managua, 2 Jan (AFP) -- LA PRENSA codirector Jaime Chamorro has announced that the opposition newspaper did not circulate on Wednesday because 80 percent of its news material was censored by the government.

The journalist indicated that 20 news articles or photographs in the only opposition newspaper in Nicaragua were totally or partially censored by the Interior Ministry's Media Directorate. Some of the headlines for the censored news were: "Ortega Should Show the Existence of Freedom," "Public Freedoms Must Be Guaranteed in the New Constitution," and "The Sale of Water Reemerges in Neighborhoods."

In the editorial entitled "Without Freedom There Is No Legitimacy," which was also censored, the newspaper's directors called on the Sandinist government to begin a "political opening" with the presidential inauguration of Commander Daniel Ortega on 10 January.

The editorial indicated that "there must be an opening for freedom of the press, a national dialogue with the cards on the table, the immediate abolition of censorship and the establishment of a state of law where justice, which is now subordinate or relegated to the armed power, will prevail."

The newspaper LA PRENSA has not circulated on 40 occasions in the past 3 years as a result of the government censorship.

BARRICADA SAYS DONATED FOOD SOLD IN BLACK MARKET

PA282359 Paris AFP in Spanish 2116 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Text] Managua, 28 Dec (AFP) -- The ruling FSLN newspaper BARRICADA has charged that a donation of canned food from Hungary and the CSSR has found its way into the black market. A sizable amount of those products, which were expected to generate over $1 million in sales, are being sold in Managua's eastern marketplace, known as "the heart of the black market," at prices four times the officially set prices.

The newspaper asks: "How did those products wind up in the eastern marketplace?" and adds that a portion of the shipment was going to be distributed among the soldiers fighting against the rebel groups in the mountains of northern Nicaragua.

Until now, the Sandinist officials seem unable to put an end to hoarding and speculation caused by the shortages of food and consumer products.

However, government officials announced that in 1985 they will adopt "drastic" measures against those who "who do business with the people's necessities."

COMMANDER RUIZ ON REVOLUTION'S COST IN LIVES

PA281735 Managua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Dec 84

[Excerpts] Commander Henry Ruiz spoke yesterday at the commemoration of the 10th anniversary of a heroic action by the Juan Jose Quesada tactical combat unit.

[Begin recording] Today, our people demand peace because they are now free. Justice and the future have ceased to be blurred. Nevertheless, our continual effort, struggle, and sacrifice, must go on. The enemy is the same. It appears and acts in a variety of ways. The statistics of this struggle for the past few years are impressive. The struggle against the tyrant Somoza cost the people about 50,000 lives and 100,000 victims, as well as material and financial losses and the necessity of having to face debts amounting to $4.2 billion.

More than 7,000 [as heard] fellow Nicaraguans have lost their lives defending the revolution. In addition, we have suffered losses amounting to about $1 billion due to physical damage, lost crops and financial and commercial difficulties. In short, we have suffered the loss of 57,000 fellow Nicaraguans, killed more than 100,000 victims, and losses of more than $5.2 billion [as heard] as the result of unfair, merciless, and wicked aggression. Yet, our small country must and will continue to struggle.

History is on the people's side. The FSLN will always honor that glorious and rich story of Nicaraguan patriotism. Today we have a people more combative than yesterday's. Our vanguard is more experienced than it was yesterday. We are now better prepared to struggle unselfishly and resolutely to deal a strategic and military blow to the aggression of mercenaries and imperialists. We are now better prepared to make a greater effort in military operations against aggressors, with the same imagination, devotion, meekness, and boldness we displayed at the time we gathered forces for a continued insurrection.

While the war of the people against mercenaries and murderers is being expanded, we must maintain the people's economy and unhesitatingly attack the squandering of the people's resources. While all of us fight aggression, there must be effective control of the people's property. The enemy's infiltration into everyday work, that is to say, indifference, the I-have-nothing-to-lose stance, capitalization, administrative bureaucracy, rumors, and alarmist and defeatist counterrevolutionary jokes must be denounced and fought just as we denounced and fought informers and murderers of the Somoza regime. [end recording]

ARDE SEEKS ESTABLISHMENT OF WORLD LIBERATION GROUP

PA030422 Panama City ACAN in Spanish 0021 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] San Jose, 2 Jan (ACAN-EFE) -- The faction of the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance (ARDE) loyal to Eden Pastora and the "liberation movements" of Angola, Mozambique, and Afghanistan "have taken steps for the establishment of the Democratic International for Liberation," [Internacional Democratica de Liberacion] Jose Davila, official in charge of the ARDE political section announced today.

In statements to ACAN-EFE, Davila said: "We have analyzed the points of agreement among those movements and ours" and have reached the conclusion that "we are democratic and nationalists and that we are struggling against Soviet expanionism."

The ARDE leader said that Pastora has begun contacting the Angolan, Mozambique, and Afghan movements and "his idea is to organize an international of liberation movements that are democratic, revolutionary, nationalistic, and anti-Soviet."

He stressed that underdeveloped peoples must work in coordination to form "associations that solve our problems of poverty and injustice within a democratic framework."

"We hope to form associations different from the traditional capitalist and communist systems. There must be a third path, democratic associations based on changes for freedom and pluralism," he said.

DEFENSE MINISTRY REPORTS U.S., CONTRA ACTIVITIES

PA031834 Mangua Radio Sandino Network in Spanish 1200 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Official report issued by the Defense Ministry's Public and International Relations Directorate in Managua; date not given]

[Text] Between 15 December 1984 and 2 January 1985, three U.S. Navy vessels engaged in naval activities off our coasts. The units have been identified as follows: FFG-24 Jack Williams, guided missile frigate; FFG-9 Wadsworth, guided missile frigate; and CG-32 William H. Standley, guided missile cruiser.

In addition, violations of our country's airspace have increased to 46. Some of these have been carried out with direct support from the naval vessels. The Bell UH-1H Iroquois helicopter, which came from one of the U.S. frigates located in the Pacific Ocean, is an example of this. At 1900 on 28 December 1984, the helicopter violated Nicaraguan airspace and then returned to its place of origin.

During this same period, the military actions carried out by the Sandinist People's Army, EPS, troops inflicted 95 enemy casualties, including 81 dead, during 25 clashes. These clashes took place mainly in Quilali in Nueva Segovia Department and in Wiwili, Sompopera, and San Jose de Bocay in Jinotega Department. The EPS performance was particularly outstanding during the clash which took place on 21 December, in Los Cedros, Jinotega Department. Forces from the Battalions for Unconventional Warfare participated in the clash and inflicted 30 casualties on the mercenaries.

During this same period the Somozist mercenaries, who have gained notoriety for their merciless actions against the Nicaraguan peasant population, murdered 23 civilians, wounded 19, and kidnapped 78 people, both in groups and individually. They also ambushed three vehicles, both private and state-owned, and attacked seven economic and social service installations. Some of these atrocious activities include:

On 15 December, counterrevolutionary members ambushed a Toyota land cruiser of the Nicaraguan Agrarian Reform Institute cacao project in the sector of Nueva Guinea, and assassinated five people, including the project director.

On 20 December, a Nicaraguan Red Cross vehicle was ambushed by mercenary forces in Puerto Cabezas, resulting in the death of one person who was in the vehicle and the wounding of three others.

On 26 December, a vehicle was attacked in La Sompopera, located in southwest Jinotega Department. Six people were killed, including two small girls.

The attacks on economic and social service installations include:

On 14 December, counterrevolutionary forces set fire to a health center, a coffee depot, and three privately owned farms in Pita and El Carmen, located 22 km south of Wiwili.

On 24 December, the Somozists attacked the Los Platanales cooperative, located 12 km west of Esteli. As a result of this criminal action, 17 people were killed, 3 were wounded, and 13 others were kidnapped. A school and a water pump were also destroyed.

On 28 December, mercenary forces attacked and set fire to the state production unit in (Castillo Norte), located 15 km northwest of (Asturias) in Jinotega Department. During this action, one civilian was killed and another one was wounded.

On 28 December, a counterrevolutionary group set fire to the Los Arguello farm, located 10 km south of Mulukuku in Matagalpa Department.

On 21 December, 13 peasants were kidnapped in the zone of Susun Arriba, located west of Rosita in Zelaya Department. Sixteen other peasants were kidnapped by counter-revolutionary members of the Nicarao Regional Commando in (Mata de Platano) in northern Madriz Department.

On 31 December counterrevolutionary forces kidnapped a still undetermined number of peasants in Valle San Nicolas, located 4 km from Achuapa in Chontales Department. In the Monte Verde community, located 24 km south of La Gateada in Chontales Department, five more civilians were kidnapped on 27 December.

ARDE ISSUES 'ANNUAL WAR REPORT' ON 1984 ACTIONS

PA011819 (Clandestine) Voice of Sandino in Spanish to Nicaragua at 0400 GMT 1 Jan 85

["Annual war report" issued by the Democratic Revolutionary Alliance [ARDE] Armed Forces on 31 December in "Sarapiqui, free territory of Nicaragua"]

[Text] The General Command of the ARDE Armed Forces reports to the Nicaraguan people and the world's free peoples:

1. For our people, 1984 meant the decision to [words indistinct] around our revolutionary political and military principles to struggle for their liberation against the enemies of the party-state-army and against the Cuban-Soviet intervention affecting all Nicaraguans.

2. Thanks to the will of the patriotic peasants who fight with rifles in their hands and are organized in the peasant insurrection, we have been able to make qualitative and quantitative strides in our irreversible advance toward definite victory.

3. This command reports to our people that our fighters total (?8,200) men who [words indistinct] in the central, southern, and Atlantic regions of Nicaragua [words indistinct] precarious and difficult positions [words indistinct].

4. In 1984, the peasant insurrection fulfilled the planned objectives, waging a total of (?605) battles, carrying out [words indistinct] including the seizure of [name indistinct], San Juan del Norte, [words indistinct], La Union, Atlanta, Fonseca, El Serrano, La Estrella, the 19 de Julio settlement, Aguas Calente, San Miguel, Los Angeles, San Jose, Los Limones, El Porvenir, Santa Rosa, (La Reforma), Gaspar Garcia Laviana, Rio Plata, and the harassment of Rawawas, Acoyapa, [name indistinct], (El Litoral), El Almendro, (El Triunfo), Muelle de los Buelles, and Rama Cay island.

5. As a result of these operations, we were able to inflict on those who defend intervention a total of 3,100 dead and 5,000 wounded, including many Cuban, Chilean, and Argentine internationalists as well as guerrillas from Colombia's 19 April Movement, a Marxist-Leninist organization that, like others, has dared to come to a nation that loves freedom more than life itself.

6. For our part, we have had to lament the irreparable loss of 250 brothers and comrades in the struggle, who did not just die but died for the fatherland. In their memory and from their example, our peasant insurrection advances with huge steps in an area covering 25,000 square km of which we control (?9,500) square km. Of these, we can mention approximately 2,000 square km of jungle that permits [words indistinct] plan the actions against the tyrants.

7. In 1984, ARDE troops carried out the El Corozo action, during which 69 companeros of our liberation army were murdered by the mercenary and genocidal troops of the Interior Ministry. This action resulted in the annihilation of henchman Enrique Schmidt, the pseudo-subcommander who was able to personally confirm that our liberation war is made up to [words indistinct] who accompanied Sandino, the general of the Segovias, in his war against the invader. The everlasting example of the heroes and martyrs of El Corozo becomes a liberation offensive that will not halt until it drives the assassins of the ill-named FSLN from their hideouts.

8. The material recovered from the enemy enables us to consolidate our positions and help our advance deep in our mountains. With our 1984 actions, we can responsibly state that we are in the pre-insurrectional phase, preparing the conditions that in the end will be the grave for those who have become the gravediggers of our people.

Long live Sandino! Long live freedom! Free fatherland or kill! Without totalitarianism or a return to the Somozist past!

[Signed] Eden Pastora Gomez, general commander of the ARDE Armed Forces,
31 December 1984

ANPP SENDS SOLIDARITY LETTER TO UNESCO'S M'BOW

FL040056 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] The National Assembly of People's Government [ANPP] has sent a letter of sympathy and solidarity to UNESCO's director general, Amadou Mahtar M'Bow on the attacks it has received from imperialistic interests. The letter, signed by ANPP president Flavio Bravo, expresses the admiration of all Cubans for Amadou Mahtar M'Bow's attitude in defense of UNESCO's democratic principles. The letter also underscores that the Cuban government has approved an increase of Cuba's financial contribution to UNESCO as a sign of solidarity from the Cuban people.

C.R.RODRIGUEZ SIGNS CAMBODIAN CONDOLENCE BOOK

FL031944 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1800 GMT 3 Dec 84

[Text] A condolences book for the death of Chan Si, member of the Politburo of the Kampuchean People's Revolutionary Party and president of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, has been opened today at the embassy of that brother nation. Carlos Rafael Rodriguez, member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of Cuba and vice president of the Councils of State and Ministers, went to that embassy to express his condolences. The Cuban leader signed the book of condolences accompanied by Kampuchean Ambassador Long Visalo.

Floral wreaths from Vietnam and Laos arrived early this morning at the embassy. Jorge Fernandez Cuervo Vinent, minister of the fishing industry and president of the Cuban-Kampuchean Friendship Association, and ambassador accredited in Cuba also visited the embassy. The condolences book was opened at 1000 today and will remain open for signing by the public until 5 January.

HIJACKER'S EXTRADITION TO U.S. POSSIBLE

PA030435 Paris AFP in Spanish 0054 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Havana, 2 Jan (AFP) -- Cuban observers in Havana said today that Cuban officials could accede to a U.S. request to extradite Ishmael Ali Labeet, a man convicted of murder by the U.S. justice system and who diverted a plane to Cuba on Monday.

Awaiting an official Cuban response to Washington's request, the observers said that this is a very special case and that Cuba could decide in favor of the United States.

Ishmael Ali Labeet, who was sentenced to life imprisonment for the 1972 deaths of eight persons in Saint Croix, Virgin Islands, hijacked an American Airlines DC-10 plane after disarming an armed escort in charge of transferring him from the Virgin Islands to New York. This is an unusual case in the history of air hijackings.

After the DC-10 plane landed in Havana on Monday, Ishmael Ali Labeet surrendered to Cuban authorities and has been detained there.

According to observers, the criminal's return to U.S. authorities would represent a gesture of goodwill from Havana. The observers noted that relative calm now prevails in Cuban-U.S. relations after both countries signed an agreement on immigration matters in December. This was the first agreement reached between the two countries since 1977.

ROMANIA'S CEAUCESCU SENDS ANNIVERSARY GREETINGS

FL031604 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1500 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu has sent cordial congratulations and warm greetings to our Commander in Chief Fidel Castro on the occasion of the 26th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution. The message, also signed by Prime Minister Constantin Dascalescu, expresses the conviction that the good relations of friendship, solidarity, and multilateral cooperation between Cuba and Romania will achieve even greater development in the interest of both nations and the general socialist cause.

BOLIVIAN HOUSEWIVES VISIT EMBASSY IN LA PAZ

FL303254 Havana Television Service in Spanish 0100 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Some 300 Bolivian housewives have made a friendly assault on the Cuban Embassy in La Paz on the 26th anniversary of the triumph of the Cuban revolution. The women, from populist neighborhoods, entered the diplomatic offices singing revolutionary songs and chanting slogans for Fidel and Che. The visitors talked with the Cuban officials, and read a communique of tribute to Cuba. They also presented gifts of Bolivian crafts for Commander in Chief Fidel Castro.

MEDICAL BRIGADE IN SEYCHELLES HOLDS CONFERENCE

FL031947 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] The second scientific conference, organized by a Cuban medical cooperation brigade in the Republic of Seychelles, has presented seven papers which summarize the experiences of Cuban health workers. The charge d'affaires referred to the accomplishments of Cuban doctors and paramedic staffs.

PER CAPITA GDP INCREASE LARGEST IN REGION

FL040038 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 4 Jan 85

[Text] The Economic Commission for Latin America [ECLA] has reported that Cuba registered the largest regional per capita gross domestic product [GDP] increase between 1981 and 1984 with a rate of 22.6 percent. The organization also reported that the growth of Cuba's GDP was much higher than other Latin American nations.

POLITBURO MEMBERS VISIT SCULPTURE STUDIO

FL031940 Havana Domestic Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Commanders of the Revolution Juan Almeida Bosque and Interior Minister Ramiro Valdes Menendez, both Politburo members, have visited the studio in Santa Clara where a monument is being sculpted of Commander Ernesto Che Guevara and other figures. The sculpture will be erected in the province's future Revolution Square to honor the hero's memory.

Almeida and Ramiro were received by sculptor Jose de Larra, creator of the works, with whom they talked for a long time. De Larra gave them detailed information on the pieces and the process used to make the 7-meter tall bronze figure of the unforgettable combatant.

BARBADOS

JAN-SEP 1984 FOREIGN TRADE TOTAL UP FROM 1983

FL031700 Bridgetown BARBADOS ADVOCATE in English 25 Dec 84 p 2

[Text] Barbados earned Bds$94.8 million in foreign exchange during the first nine months of this year when it exported $248.2 million in goods to countries other than the Caribbean Community (Caricom).

According to figures from the Barbados Statistical Service (BSS), Barbados sold its non-Caricom trading partners $248.2 million in goods during the first nine months of this year compared with 153.4 million for the same period last year. Imports from during the January to September period this year were put at $273.6 million as against $237.1 million.

The BSS reports said Barbados bought $31.7 million in crude oil from Venezuela during the first nine months of this year as against $24.8 million for the same period last year.

It exported $142.3 million in goods to Puerto Rico this year which consisted of mainly electronic components as against $121.4 million for the same period last year, while importing $2 million in as $2.4 million for the same period in 1983. [as received]

Other countries to which Barbados sold more goods this year were Belgium, $5 million; Ireland, $1.9 million; the U.S. Virgin Islands, $1.3 million; and Curacao, $2 million. Barbados imported $2.9 million from Switzerland, $37.3 million from Japan, and $148.6 million from other countries.

OPPOSITION LEADER BARROW ON UNEMPLOYMENT

FL031532 Bonaire Trans World Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Barbados opposition leader Errol Barrow called on the government of Tom Adams to make reducing the nation's 16-percent rate of unemployment a top priority for 1985. Mr Barrow said Tuesday: The main concern of Barbadians at this time relates to unemployment. Thousands of Barbadians who were at work before enter 1985 without jobs.

The opposition leader recommended the government set up a productivity board comprising members of the public and private sector to find solutions to the problems. Mr Barrow said 1984 had been disastrous for local businesses and that about 60 of them were in various stages of liquidation or receivership.

DOMINICA

UDLP LEADER SAYS GRENADA ELECTIONS 'NOT FREE'

FL032246 Bridgetown CANA in English 2034 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Roseau, Dominica, Jan 3, CANA -- Former government minister and leader of the United Dominica Labour Party [UDLP], Michael Douglas, says the recent election in Grenada was not free and fair.

Douglas, who has just returned from St George's where he said he witnessed the December 3 vote, has indicated he will seek to ensure that what allegedly happened in Grenada does not happen here.

He spoke of questionable ballot papers, without elaborating, and of unnamed external forces playing a major role in ensuring a landslide win for the New National Party (NNP) of Prime Minister Herbert Blaize. What I saw did not lead me to believe that the NNP raised enough money from their own resources. I would have to come to the conclusion that the Grenada election was pre-determined. That is not to say I am in total disagreement with the results...what I am discussing is the methodology by which they (NNP) came to office; I am not satisfied that it was a free and fair election, Douglas told reporters.

He said he would table a question at the next session of parliament seeking to ensure that the ballot papers used in Grenada would not be used here. Opposition parties in Grenada, badly beaten in the poll, alleged that papers were tampered with by a sophisticated chemical process. The government denied the charge.

Douglas said he hoped that the external forces which worked in Grenada would not surface here and prevent Dominicans electing a government of their choice. An election must be held here by October.

Douglas said the UDLP along with other opposition parties here would continue talks aimed at forming a united front to fight the ruling Freedom Party of Prime Minsiter Eugenia Charles.

JAMAICA

1984 BAUXITE PRODUCTION RISES, EARNINGS DECLINE

FL032010 Bridgetown CANA in English 1722 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, Jan 3 CANA -- Jamaica's bauxite production rose 11.5 per cent during 1984, but net earnings from the industry declined an estimated 12 per cent, preliminary figures show. The Jamaica Bauxite Institute (JBI), the government agency that monitors the industry here, says it expects the 1984 out-turn to be 8.57 million tonnes, compared with the 7.7 million tonnes of 1983.

The executive director of the institute, Dr Carlton Davis, told THE GLEANER newspaper that net earnings from the industry during 1984 would be U.S. 220 million dollars, U.S. 30 million dollars less than the year before. Total bauxite production takes in the ore exported raw and that refined to alumina.

The JBI in its report said that crude bauxite shipment last year was expected to round off at 4.54 million tonnes, a 43.2 per cent increase over the 1983 figure. However, the spectacular up-turn was not a result of any real or lasting recovery in the aluminium industry that was working its way back to the bauxite sector here. The JBI reported that 1.03 million dollars was accelerated final shipments by Reynolds Jamaica Mines, which was closing down operations here and ending the partnership with the Jamaica Government. There was also a final shipment of 0.88 million tonnes to the U.S. strategic mineral stockpile -- unrequired purchases the Reagan administration has made to help shore-up the Jamaican economy. However, no new deals have been worked out with Washington this year and this could leave a gap in production, analysts here say.

Also helping output this year was the 0.80 million tonnes shipped to the Soviet Union in the first full year of a seven year agreement in which the Soviets have promised to buy a million tonnes a year of Jamaican bauxite.

While raw bauxite shipments were up, that of alumina declined 11.6 per cent to 1.69 million tonnes, JBI said. The agency put this down to lower than expected production from the 500,000 tonne Alcoa refinery and a strike that led to a three-month shut-down of the Alpart refinery.

A government agency, Bauxite and Alumina Trading Company (BATCO), accounted for sale of 37 per cent of the total bauxite production, JBI said.

ST CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS

SIMMONDS ON 1985 EDUCATION, ECONOMIC PLANS

FL031138 Bridgetown CANA in English 2317 GMT 2 Jan 85

[Text] Basseterre, St Kitts, Jan 2, CANA -- St Kitts and Nevis prime minister, Dr Kennedy Simmonds, has listed expansion and improvement of schools and diversification of the sugar industry among the major projects for 1985.

In a new year's message, he said that education will receive a special focus. According to Dr Simmonds, the government plans to spend 1.7 million dollars (one E.C. dollar -- 37 cents U.S.) in improving secondary and primary schools. Tentative approval had also been obtained for 2.3 million dollars to construct a primary school, the prime minister reported. All of the funds will come from aid programmes, he remarked.

He also spoke about a 6 million dollar Caribbean Development Bank (CDB)-financed project that will use bagasse -- the residue of ground sugar cane -- from the lone sugar factory here for producing electricity. The government has entered into an agreement with private investors for the setting up of an alcohol factory in close collaboration with the sugar factory and the bagasse project, Dr Simmonds reported.

The prime minister also disclosed that a five million dollar St Kitts soil conservation project and a Nevis water development scheme, both funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development, will start this month.

Dr Simmonds started the new year by calling on people in the twin-island state to make 1985 a year of stepped-up productivity.

SUGAR PRODUCTION IN 1984 DROPS 7.6 PERCENT

FL04218 Bridgetown CANA in English 1958 GMT 3 Jan 85

[By Edwin Ali]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Jan 3, CANA -- Guyana produced 241,851 tons of sugar last year, a 7.6 per cent drop on 1983 production, the state-run Guyana Sugar Corporation (Guysuco) reported today.

Guysuco Chairman Harold Davis said strikes and persistent rainfall were largely responsible for Guyana's main net foreign exchange earner producing 20,019 tons of sugar below last year's 261,870 tons and nearly 43,000 tons under the original 1984 target of 284,813 tons.

1984 could have been so much better had the sugar industry been able to keep up the momentum of the good first crop when we made 105,161 tons of sugar against an estimate of 109,758 tons, an achievement of 95.8 per cent, Davis remarked.

However, the expectation of making 284,813 tons in 1984 was thwarted by poor achievement in the second crop which was primarily the result of almost continuous rainfall since May 1984, poor turnout of workers on some estates, and unnecessary strikes.

Davis continued: The poor weather played havoc with our field operations, particularly our land preparation and replanting programmes, and these setbacks could have adverse effects on the 1985 second crop.

He described the state of the industry as certainly not a happy one, but added: Our industry, although beset by many problems, will certainly survive and not only survive, but return to financial viability.

Only the bauxite industry here earns more gross foreign exchange than sugar. Both have in recent years faced production and revenue problems. Guysuco lost 119.7 million dollars (one Guy dollar; 22 cents U.S.) in 1983 and President Forbes Burnham said the 1984 loss could be 112 million dollars.

Davis today listed a number of preconditions to turn the industry around from current losses to a profitable operation during 1985. He called for improvement of our personal efficiencies by reporting for work punctually and regularly, minimising strikes, and giving a fair day's work for a fair day's pay. He urged: Care for our assets, ensure they are maintained in good order, and that they are utilised at the optimum level.

Davis also suggested sugar industry workers maintain the right balance between field and factory, adding: I mean by this that we must aim to produce the right quantity and quality of canes to fully satisfy factory requirements. Also ensure that our factories are properly maintained to take care of the canes they have the potential capacity to mill.

He called for efforts to continue to develop profitable markets through bilateral arrangements and push our traditional markets by means of constant dialogue at the various forums for better quality.

Davis said the industry must also use fewer canes to produce a ton of sugar and improve work standards.

Davis said without the right people in the right jobs, our efficiencies will most definitely suffer, no matter how good our other assets are.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

FOREIGN MINISTER DISCUSSES DEBTORS CLUB, U.S. AID

FL031905 Santo Domingo LISTIN DIARIO 28 Dec 84 pp 1, 10

[By Tulio Navarrete]

[Text] Foreign Secretary Jose Augusto Vega Imbert said yesterday that the Cartagena agreement does not seek the creation of a debtors club, pointing out that its purpose is to find certain common strategies so it can renegotiate its debt "under the best possible conditions." Vega Imbert pointed out that the hopes of the Cartagena agreement countries rest on common positions, but not on seeking a single position from which to renegotiate. He pointed out that consensus is being sought not only from the countries of the Contadora Group, "but also from the industrialized nations." Vega Imbert made these statements in an interview with journalists yesterday at the Foreign Ministry.

The foreign minister also referred to the $50-million donation from the United States to the Dominican Republic. Vega Imbert said the donation "is very positive" for the Dominican Republic, which, like other Latin American and Third World countries, is experiencing "a difficult situation." He recalled that 4 months ago, the U.S. Congress approved the additional aid as a soft loan, but the government of President Ronald Reagan changed it to a donation. He said the aid would "favorably" affect the country's balance of trade.

Vega Imbert, in response to questions on other matters, said that during an economic crisis such as the one effecting the Dominican Republic, the foreign service is rising to the occasion.

ECUADOR

STUDENT DEMONSTRATIONS, BUS OWNERS STRIKE CONTINUE

PA040142 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2233 GMT 3 Jan 85

[Text] Quito, 3 Jan (EFE) -- University students today staged street riots for the second day in a row in Quito to protest the fuel and transportation fare price increases. The partial strike by bus owners, who are demanding fare increases to compensate for operation costs that will rise as a result of the higher gasoline prices, also continued today. Police used tear gas to repress the student demonstrations that occurred near the Central University campus and concentrated at other strategic points as a preventive measure. To alleviate the shortage of transportation, the government put military trucks with armed guards into circulation, while people crowded into small trucks or walked great distances to reach their destinations.

The government has reaffirmed the need for a 66-percent increase in gasoline prices, a measure decided upon last week to obtain "resources for development, combat contraband from neighboring countries, and correct the unjust distribution of the national income." Meanwhile, the Congress, dominated by the center-left opposition, began to review a bill on an overall increase of salaries and wages in an attempt to compensate for the deterioration of the economy and, at the same time, rejected the regime's readjustments.

PARAGUAY

JUDGE ORDERS AQUI MAGAZINE 'DEFINITIVELY' CLOSED

PY031457 Asuncion EL DIARIO in Spanish 3 Jan 85 p 18

[Excerpt] The judge of the night criminal court has granted an injunction filed by the plaintiff, Attorney General Dr Clotildo Jimenez Benitez, and has ordered that "AQUI magazine be definitively closed." The judge based his ruling on the evidence supplied by the plaintiff some days ago.

URUGUAY

MILITARY COURTS RELEASE 15 POLITICAL PRISONERS

PY032210 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1831 GMT 3 Jan 84

[Text] Montevideo, 3 Jan (EFE) -- Uruguayan military courts have ordered the release of 15 more political prisoners before the completion of their prison terms, which means that 37 political prisoners have been set free by the regime over the past 10 days.

A total of 15 men, including three Army officers who had opposed the June 1973 coup d'etat, and six women were freed 1-3 January.

The released civilians had been arrested for being members of the Communist Youth Union, linked to the guerrilla "Tupamaros" National Liberation Movement, and union leaders.

All the prisoners who have been released had completed more than half of their prison terms and had been paroled.

These releases are part of an agreement reached between politicians and the regime to create an atmosphere of peace and reconstruction within the Uruguayan institutional process.

The democratic government will be installed on 1 March after 11 years of military dictatorship and it is estimated that on this date the number of political prisoners, which currently totals 450, will be approximately 280.